

Dec 1872

HMS Challenger left Portsmouth England. Its objectives were scientific

John Murray, one of the 5 scientists aboard spent the remaining decades of the century compiling a 50-volume report on the expedition results. They found abundant life below 1,800 ft level. They discovered

a great range of undersea mountains running down the middle of the Atlantic Ocean.

2 yrs later their soundings revealed a chasm in the Western Pacific more than 5 mi deep (part of Tectonics)